

GOOD NEIGHBORLY NEWS

ISSUE 4

A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PUBLICATION

FALL - 2010

Block Captains:

Share this newsletter with your block participants and don't forget to sign up for **e-mailed crime alerts**.

To register, e-mail me at jodee.sasway@carlsbadca.gov and get details.

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City Website:

www.carlsbadca.gov

Emergency:

9 1 1

Non-emergency:

760-931-2197

Crime Statistic Hotline:

760-931-2201

Other Crime Statistics:

760-931-2279

Police Watch Commander

760-931-2115

Traffic Unit:

760-931-2290

Narcotics Unit:

760-931-2195

Records Division:

769-931-2119

Detective Division:

760-931-2145

Community Services:

760- 931-2177

The mission of the Crime Prevention Unit is: The anticipation, recognition and appraisal of crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it.

Let's do it together!

Is Opportunity Knocking?

Did you know three elements must be present in order for a crime to be successful? They are desire, target and opportunity and they are called the Crime Triangle. Without all three, a crime cannot take place. Fortunately, you have a great deal of control over one of the three elements. Take a look at the elements.

First is the **desire** to commit a crime. There is nothing you can realistically do to eliminate someone's desire to commit a crime. Next, is the **target** and it depends on what type of crime the person is willing to commit. The target might be your house, your vehicle or even your person. Usually, it is whatever is easiest.

That brings us to the **opportunity**. Opportunity is defined as a favorable or advantageous circumstance. Why does the burglar or thief choose your house, vehicle or you? The overwhelming majority of crime that occurs in Carlsbad occurs because of this opportunity. Remove the element of opportunity and the crime is preventable. You will no longer be the target.

In residential neighborhoods the opportunity might be a house that has been left with the windows or doors unsecured, lacking good natural surveillance or lighting and giving the impression that no one is home or even no one cares. Further, the burglar might have tested the neighborhood to see what neighbors would do if they walked around checking things out.

Opportunities might also be unlocked vehicles sitting in open garages with personal property inside, houses with open sliders and a purse in view or even presents under a Christmas tree in front of a picture window. Remember a thief is looking for an easy, undetected access and escape. How easy would it be to enter

your house or neighborhood undetected?

With vehicles the opportunity might be a vehicle parked outside all night with personal property inside. A thief can go to most neighborhoods and find an unsecured vehicle. Yet even if you lock your vehicle, leaving behind laptops, iPods, cell phones, purses, GPS's or other valuable property creates an opportunity as the target is unattended and the access is easy.

Thieves have access to thousands of dollars in property or your identity.

The opportunity for vehicle crime is not just found at night in our neighborhoods. It is found at the beach when the key is left on the tire, at a restaurant when a work laptop, GPS or cell phone is left behind or at a mall when iPods, purchases and other belongings are left behind.

Opportunity also applies to your personal safety. Are you confident about where you are going; have you looked at a map; is your vehicle in good repair; is your cell phone charged; does someone know where you are; are you carrying as little as possible? What steps have you taken to ensure your personal safety? Walking around unaware or unprepared makes you appear like an easy target.

We can significantly reduce our risk of crime by getting rid of the opportunity. Take a moment and check out the "Home Security Guide", "Vehicle Burglary and Theft Prevention Guide" and the other guides available on the City's website at www.carlsbadca.gov; search "crime prevention". Let's work together, removing opportunity from the crime triangle and making our communities the best possible place to be.



Attention: Adventurous Seniors

If you are age 55 or over and you are looking for a challenging, fun way to contribute to the community while helping to reduce crime and increase law enforcement services to the community, then senior patrol may be it.

Senior volunteer patrol members contribute approximately 24 hours per month and perform a variety of functions including:

- Neighborhood patrols
- Traffic control
- Foot patrols
- Assistance to patrol officers
- Handicapped violation enforcement
- Police station tours
- Visits and calls to homebound seniors
- Community presentations
- Assistance at special events

Senior volunteer patrol members are required to attend a two-week academy. During this academy, participants receive training in traffic control, safety, first aid and CPR, ethics, radio communications, traffic citations, gangs and drugs, and crime prevention, as well as hands-on driving safety. Members are issued uniforms and all necessary equipment.

For more information on the upcoming academy, contact 760-931-2214 or mike.whaley@carlsbadca.gov.



Job Announcement Scam

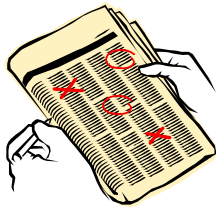
If you're looking for a job, you may see ads for firms that promise results. Unfortunately, some firms may misrepresent their services, promote outdated or fictitious job offerings, or charge high fees in advance for services that may not lead to a job.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) says scammers advertise jobs exactly where legitimate employers do—on popular Web sites, in the classifieds and even on TV. The ads sound promising, whether it's for hourly work or an executive-level job, but ads placed by scammers come with a twist: You have to pay—and then, there's no job.

Many con artists are good at what they do. They can sound very convincing, especially when your defenses are down. They may say they have a job waiting for you...or they might guarantee to place you in a job. But you can't believe the promises—even when you want to. Legitimate companies won't guarantee you a job.

The FTC urges job seekers to be aware of the red flags that may signal a job scam:

- If an employer or employment-service firm wants you to pay—even if it says it's for certification, training materials or for its expenses placing you with a company—don't do business with it. Legitimate employers and firms don't ask you to pay for the promise of a job.
- Some listing services and "consultants" write their ads or phone scripts to sound like they have jobs waiting for you. The truth is, they're only selling information about looking for a job—information that's generally available for free. If you've been the victim of a job scam and paid someone for a job that didn't exist, the FTC wants to hear about it. Complain to the FTC at www.ftc.gov/complaint or call 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357). Watch a new video, "How to File a Complaint," at www.ftc.gov/video to learn more. Letting the FTC know about your experience can help put an employment scam out of business. For more information and to watch an educational video, visit www.ftc.gov/jobscams.



Crime Rate down Year-to-Date

As of September, 2010 the FBI Index crime rate is down in Carlsbad when compared to the same period in 2009. The even better news is that Residential burglary is down 19%! This does not mean it's time to become complacent. This means it is time to keep up the good work and continue the downhill trend.

The holidays are coming and past experience shows residential burglary tends to increase. Add to this the time change and we will be coming home to dark neighborhoods if we do not make some adjustments.

Adjust your timers to reflect the time change and never come home to a dark house, inside or out. Create low-level blanket of light around the outside of your house that goes on when it starts to get dark and goes off when it starts to get light. If you use energy efficient florescent bulbs, you can light the outside of your house with the same wattage as one incandescent bulb!

Activate interior lights with timers that turn off when you would normally go to bed. Working together we can have a safe and happy holiday season!

Type	Year to Date	Last year to Date	Change
Homicide	0	5	-100%
Rape	15	19	-21%
Robbery	30	37	-19%
Aggravated Assault	106	161	-34%
Violent Crime	151	222	-32%
Burglary	270	328	-18%
Residential	154	184	-16%
Non-Residential	116	144	-19%
Larceny/Theft	989	951	4%
Auto Theft	80	94	-15%
Stolen Property	1339	1373	-2%
FBI Index Crime Total	1490	1595	-7%